

North, Magnetic North, and True North

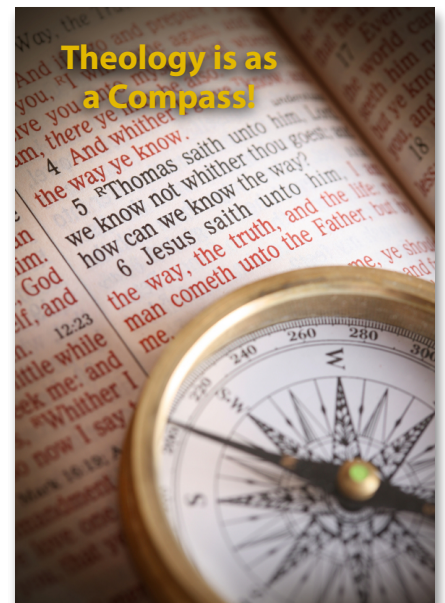
For the mariner of old, the North Star was the beginning reference point in determining direction. For the past millennium, a seafarer could make use of the compass which indicated magnetic north. A GPS device of modern times indicates true north. What technology has done in the realm of navigation, theology can do in the directing of lives. The better a preacher's theology – as in accuracy, scope and depth, as well as application – the more proficient he will be in ministry.

Studying the books of the Bible in the order they are found, as is done at NBBS, results in the student developing a sound **Biblical theology**. Knowing the context of the Biblical passages, which can be cited to convey the great truths of Christianity, is vital to formulating a solid **systematic theology**. Correspondingly, a first year NBBS student gets an overview of the fourteen doctrines of the Bible, then a basic study of Theology Proper (including the attributes, names, and decrees of God). Next, is a course on **Bibliology** (which also features a study of the superiority of the KJV). In his second year comes a doctrinal study of Angels (which includes the study of Satan and Demons), Man, Sin, and Salvation. Next, he studies **Ecclesiology**. His third year, he studies **Christology**. Later, by way of a course on Church History, and one on World Religions and Cults, he learns of **dogmatic theology** and distorted doctrine in general, and how to refute such – after having been grounded in sensible doctrine. In his final year, he even further fine-tunes his doctrinal bearings through a more detailed study of **Eschatology**, a course which incorporates Israelology (what the Bible teaches specifically about Israel).

The NBBS student also greatly advances his Biblical content and doctrinal knowledge through the following courses: **Biblical Structure, Creation Science, World History Overview, Apologetics** (which includes the study of Bible Archaeology), **Christian Ethics, the Tabernacle, and Prayer** (a course which is also practical in nature). The Biblical Structure Course provides the student with numerous and varied frameworks of Biblical content. Here is an example of one of them to indicate the additional Biblical content given in these courses:

1. **Foundation of the World** (Genesis 1-2).
2. **Fall of All Mankind in Adam** (Genesis 3).
3. **Flood of the Whole Earth** (Genesis 6-9).
4. **Fragmentation of Society** (Genesis 10-11).
5. **Family of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob** (Genesis 12-50).
6. **Flight from Egypt** (Exodus-Deuteronomy).
7. **Fight for the Promise Land** (Joshua).
8. **Fluctuation Under the Judges** (Judges).
9. **Federation of 12 Tribes into a Kingdom** (I Samuel-I Kings 11/I Chronicles – Psalms-Song of Solomon).
10. **Fracture of Kingdom into North and South** (I Kings 12/II Chronicles 11 – Pre-Exilic Prophets).
11. **Faltering of Two Kingdoms unto Captivity** – N/K to Assyria, S/K to Babylon (I Kings 13, 24-25/II Chronicles 12ff, Esther, Ezekiel and Daniel).
12. **Flow of Remnant Back into the Land to Rebuild the Temple, Jerusalem and Society** (Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi) – JJS.

In keeping with the Apostle Paul's usual practice of first giving doctrine, then the practical application of it, the NBBS program incrementally brings in twelve practical courses of study (starting with Life Skills and Personal Evangelism the first year). In a natural flow of study, he is increasingly immersed in practical church ministry courses. Accordingly, he goes from learning Biblical content, Biblical theology, Biblical principles, Biblical living, to being grounded in all aspects of church ministry. *By the time of his graduation, he will know what “true north” is theologically, and therefore the right direction to go in ministry.*



Important Dates

Last Day of Classes – Friday, May 15
Graduation – Tuesday, May 19

Great News!

1. **The tuition of all full-time students** (those taking at least four courses – 12 total credit hours) **will be PAID IN FULL for both semesters in the 2015-2016 school year by a long-time supporter of the school.**
2. **We again have no “drop outs” this semester. Wonderfully, all students finished what they started, as they did in the fall.**
3. **Representatives are ready to visit your church!** Consider having Bro. Wiggins, Dr. Riggsby, or Bro. Stewart present the NBBS to your church. We are always ready to share what makes the NBBS uniquely effective in the training of preachers.

Favorite Sayings

“Riggsbyisms”

“Make decisions based upon what is right, not who is right.” Cited by Dr. Terry Riggsby (Founding Administrator of NBBS – 1984-1999)

Our Heritage Speaks

“Go on, go on, go on.” Louis Entzminger

Alumni News!

Bro. David Webb – pastor of the Walker Springs Road Baptist Church of Jackson, AL – working in close relationship with Bro. Stewart, conducted the pre-existing Bible institute at his church as a “pilot program” extension school of the NBBS this past school year. One of the students therein, Daniel Mairet, having more than enough credits in place when combined with the 12 courses he took through the NBBS, will be a graduate this year of Norris! Bro. Webb will be preaching, as part of the of the NBBS graduation ceremony, Tuesday night; as will Bro. Wiggins, our administrator.

Further work continues to be done in the development of the extension school strategy.

We are Encouraged by the Help of So Many!

We are grateful to so many that we know who are praying for the school and for those who are sending in monthly support. We are also thankful for those who have given special offerings.

Just in time, three pastors stepped up to provide the funds needed to purchase a piano for the Conference Center! **A very nice 5' 8" Wm. Knabe Baby Grand, was found** by Bro. Wiggins for \$2,500.00. It was delivered and then tuned on site by the seller (included in the price). It is now in place and ready for this year's May Fellowship Meeting.



Two different alumni pastors provided funds to help defray the costs for the supplies needed for a work day just conducted, Saturday, May 2. Another alumnus pastor sent a man out to take care of much needed sheetrock repair and texturing.

Much was accomplished on the aforementioned work day. Workers included not only Dr. Riggsby's grandson and Bro. Wiggins' son, (as well as, Bros. Wiggins, Riggsby, Peoples & Stewart) but also some of the NBBS student body. On the inside, sealing of baseboards with caulking; painting of walls; and general cleanup was done. The library was further organized and a room which was serving as a storeroom was cleaned out and readied for more specific use. Light fixtures were repaired. Cleaning and much preparation work on the Conference Center and some yard work was also done.

The sprinkler system for both the main building and the Conference Center has been repaired. The cost was \$875.00. It was not functional this past school year but with the fall approaching, the needed work was held off until now. Basic lawn equipment is now in place (push lawn mover, weed eater, edger, and an older riding lawn mower), but a large 60" Kubota tractor is still desired to mow the several acre campus.

NEEDS: Reception area furniture (sofas, tables, and rugs); office furniture (three desks, three small sofas, and six chairs); 2 sets of audio-visual equipment; 6 fans; 4 lecterns; 5 maps; 100 chairs; and new carpeting throughout the NBBS-Administration Building.

Thank you for prayerfully considering these needs.

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